

SST8 FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Issue 2

September 2015

New School Year Brings New Changes in Testing

As the school year begins, schools are preparing for a change in standardized testing. Last year, PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) handled the mathematics and English Language Arts assessments for the state of Ohio. Beginning this year, AIR (American Institutes for Research) will now be managing these assessments. AIR will be doing all the testing, including the science and social studies assessments. Here is what these changes mean to students and parents.

Math and English Language Arts assessments will still be based on the Common Core standards. These are the same standards in which students were assessed last year. The difference will be the platform in which the assessments are taken. The assessments can be given online or they can be given with a paper-pencil option.

Students with disabilities will be provided with alternative assessment methods. Options will include an audio version that can speak portions of the assessment. The assessments will also be available in Braille. Tactile and graphic options will be available to students who require these accommodations.

Test length will be 3 hours per subject each year. Last year's testing consumed much more than 3 hours' time per subject for most districts and schools. Students in high school may experience slightly longer testing times in English Language Arts due to the longer passages and writing components. Each district can decide to administer the assessments in one or two testing sessions.



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Below are the windows of time
for testing during the 2015-2016
School Year!



AIR Third Grade English Language Arts Test for Third Grade Guarantee:

11/30/15-12/11/15

AIR High School Block Schedule for English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies

Online tests: 11/30/15-1/8/16, paper tests: 12/8/15-1/8/16

AIR English Language Arts grades 3-8 and high school:

Online tests: 4/4/16-4/29/16, paper tests: 4/4/16-4/22/16

AIR Mathematics, Science and Social Studies:

Online tests: 4/4/16-5/13/16, paper tests: 4/4/16-5/6/16

Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Disabilities:

Spring administration: 2/22/16-4/15/16



Agency Highlight

Easter Seals of Northern Ohio provides exceptional services, education, outreach, and advocacy so that people living with autism and other disabilities can live, learn, work and play in our communities. Easter Seals has been helping individuals with disabilities and special needs, and their families, live better lives for over 90 years.

Primary Easter Seals services include:

- Medical Rehabilitation
- Early Intervention
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech and Hearing Therapy
- Job Training and Employment
- Child Care
- Adult Day Services

Easter Seals serves 27 counties in Ohio which include Summit, Medina, and Portage Counties. They have a location in Akron and Medina.

3085 West Market St. #124, Akron, OH 44333 330 836-9741

2524 Medina Rd. Suite 600, Medina, OH 44256 330 722-8558

Contact Us:

To subscribe to the SST8 Family Newsletter, contact Alice Doyle
aliced@cybersummit.org and type "parent email list" in subject line.

Check out our website at:

<http://www.sst8.org>



The Parent Access Collaborative (PAC) is planning a field trip to Echoing U on October 14, 2015. Echoing U helps young adults with disabilities continue their education, social and personal growth beyond high school. Echoing U is located at 4325 Whipple Avenue, NW Canton, OH 44718. A flyer will be sent out in October to sign up if you are interested in attending this workshop.

State Support Team Region 8

420 Washington Ave.

Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

330 929-6634